

Towards Smart Life

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Divine Perspective

- Almighty says, "As for the Paradise, We shall assign it exclusively for those who do not seek glory on earth nor want to cause mischief. The God-fearing shall have the best end." Sura Qasas, verse 28:83
- Almighty says, "Competition [longing] for more [worldly gains] diverts you [from Allah], until you end up in [your] graves. But no! You will soon come to know. Again, no! You will soon come to know. Indeed, if you were to know [your fate] with certainty, [you would have acted differently]. 'But' you will surely see the Hellfire." Sura At-Takatur, verse 1 – 6.



Divine Perspective

- Almighty says, “Thus, for each is a direction towards which he [she] turns, so, compete [strive for more] with one another in doing [that is] good [righteous deeds]. Wherever you are, Allah will bring you all together [for judgment]. Surely Allah is Most Capable of everything.” Sura Al Baqarah, verse 148
- Almighty says, “And **the people of the left**—how [miserable] will they be! [They will be] in blazing heat and boiling water, in the shade of black smoke; indeed, before this [torment] they were indulged in luxury [extravagant lifestyle] and persisted in the worst of sin.” Sura Al Waqi’ah, verse 41 -46
- Almighty says, “O you who have believed, let not your wealth and your children divert you from remembrance of Allah. And whoever does that - then those are the losers.” Sura Al Munafiqun, verse 9.



Points to Ponder

- Striving for righteous and meaningful accomplishments are better than longing for shallow glory – proclaiming higher status [VIPs/CIPs], extravagant lifestyle, power [as innate right], and motivated for more and more wealth.
 - Meaningful accomplishments are intrinsically rewarding and holistically beneficial.
 - The accomplishments benefit in this life and in the eternal life; worldly glory is often shallow, temporary and unreal.
 - Besides, worldly glory has social and economic repercussions in the lives.
 - Real satisfaction comes from meaningful accomplishments, worldly glory is superficial and diverts from the path of Almighty.
 - Indeed, Almighty knows better. The dilemma of modern-day life is real, but the choice is ours.

Introspection

- If we look back and around, we will realize that we are sort of programed to seek:
 - More and more wealth
 - Extravagant lifestyle
 - Fancy titles
 - Social status
 - Power

Contemporary Dilemma

- Consequently pride, envy, rage, rivalry, competition, false attitude, and last but not the least, status incongruence tend to eclipse meaningful accomplishments:
 - Striving in the path of Almighty;
 - Just and fair conduct;
 - Education and development of oneself and others;
 - Development for the betterment of mankind;
 - Modest living for oneself and loved ones; etc.
 - Enriching relations
 - Charity

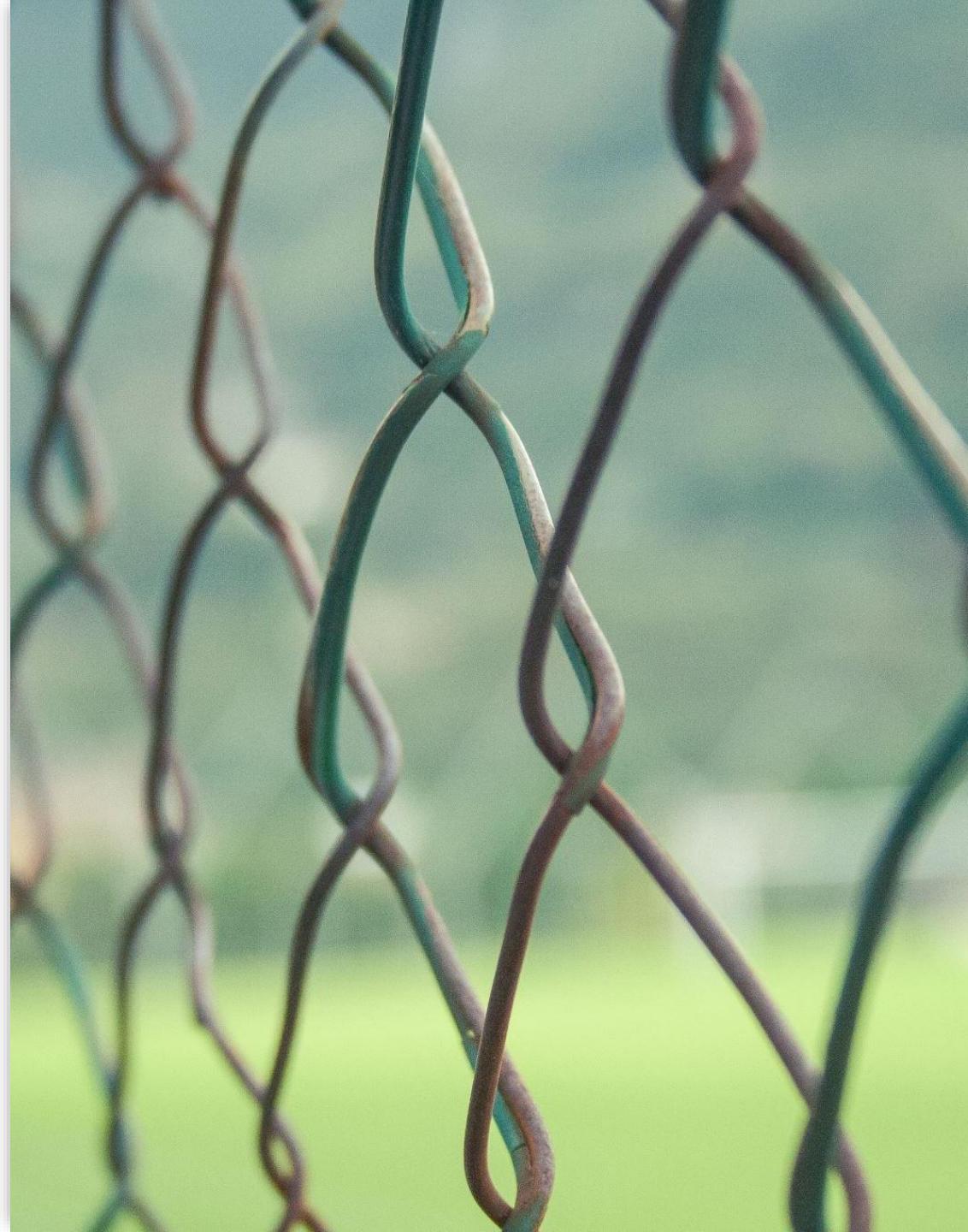
Do's

- Reflect on your faith
- Make a vision
- Act with reasoning
- Live like a common person
- Make considered choices
- Make a resolve to meaningful accomplishments
- Practice emotional restraint (impulse control)
- Recognize everyone with their names, and roles; Almighty alone can judge character [Taqwa]



Don'ts

- Avoid longing for more
- Avoid crowd following
- Avoid acting exalted [big]
- Avoid aggressive attitude towards others and nature
- Avoid luxuries, for these divert from the purpose
- Avoid differentiating people by attaching exalted titles and patronizing them – All human beings have equal rights, dignity and respect





Conclusion

- It is my faith that this divine paradigm is valuable and realistic, hence promises to foster healthy environment
- In fact, I can't say how much do I personally follow it. Can only say may Almighty, make me follow in totality.
- Nevertheless, there can be no compulsion each of us is free to choose!

Alhamdolillah, we are done!

- You are requested to ponder on it with an open mind
- Thank you

